

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CLUB

MEETING OF OCTOBER 21, 1936

The meeting was called to order by First Vice-President F. E. Denny at 3:30 P.M. at the New York Botanical Gardens with 38 members and visitors present.

The minutes of meetings of May 20 and October 6 were read and approved. Mr. Eugene Gross, 30 Nye Avenue, Newark, N. J., Miss Clara Ketcham, Bennett Avenue and Columbia Street, Hempstead, L. I. were elected as Associates of the Club. Prof. E. B. Babcock, University of California, Berkeley, Calif.; Mr. Geo. M. Lash, 189-30 37th Avenue, Flushing, L. I.; Mr. A. Rabinowitz, 1010 President Street, Brooklyn, N. Y.; and Miss Viola Richtberg, 2305 Andrews Avenue, New York City, Dr. C. E. Taft, Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio; were elected to membership.

Prof. T. E. Hazen, official delegate and representative of the Club to the Centenary Celebrations of the Botanical Society of Edinburgh, reported that he attended the meeting in Scotland during July and was enthusiastically received.

The Club then voted to revise the resolution of Jan. 8, 1936, by substituting the word "associate" for "field member." The Club also unanimously approved of the motion of the Council that a printed ballot with nominees for each office be mailed to all members of the Club prior to the Annual Meeting.

Dr. F. E. Denny, Chairman of the Committee on Constitutional Amendments, reported that this Committee had met and taken into consideration the establishment of the offices of Recording and Corresponding Secretary to replace the single existing office of Secretary.

The scientific part of the program consisted of the relating of summer collecting experiences of the members.

Mr. George T. Hastings reported the discovery of a peculiar red oak on Riverside Drive in New York City, by Dr. Leon Croizat. In this connection Dr. R. A. Harper called attention to the existence of a grove of hybrid oaks at Cliffwood and emphasized the desirability of its preservation.

Dr. R. Fulling related that he had visited Virginia and the Shenandoah National Park during the summer and found an interesting fir whose cones are quite different from those of

Abies balsamia and *Frazeri*. He believes it is either a new species or a variety whose distribution is limited to the Blue Ridge Mountains.

Mr. Raymond H. Torrey, Chairman of the Field Committee, reported on his botanical excursions to Gardners Island with the Club by boat, and on a trip around the Gaspé Peninsula to study the lichens of that region.

Mrs. G. P. Anderson related her experiences in the Great Smokies collecting lichens and her visit to Williamsburg, Va., and the serpentine barrens in Pennsylvania.

Mrs. Mabel Merriman reported on her observations concerning the ecological invasion and succession of plants in the flooded areas of her farm in Northfield, Mass.

Dr. M. A. Howe, President of the Club, described his tour through Vermont and a visit in New Hampshire to the estate of Clarence Hays with its beautiful rock garden and display of gentians.

J. S. KARLING
Secretary

MEETING OF NOVEMBER 18, 1936

The meeting was called to order by the President at 3:30 P.M. at the New York Botanical Garden with 38 members and guests present. The minutes of the meeting of October 21 were read and adopted.

The resignations of Charles F. Irish, Jerome Metzner, Professor Lewis F. Tiffany, and Miss Marjorie Swift were accepted with regret.

Mrs. Berry Hiss, Short Hills, New Jersey; Sister M. Hyacinth, 3901 Ridgway Avenue, Chicago, Illinois; Miss Emma Johnson, 166-17 33rd Avenue, Flushing, Long Island; Mr. Harry Sverdlick, 144-32 Liberty Avenue, Jamaica, New York; and Dr. Geo. L. Zundell, Pennsylvania State College, State College, Pa., were unanimously elected to membership.

Miss Francis Beardsley, 2289 Loring Place, N. Y. C.; Miss Clara Elsaesser, 120 Auburn Street, Paterson, New Jersey; Miss Mary Little, 387 East 29th Street, Paterson, New Jersey; Mr. Jerome Metzner, 1014 Manhattan Avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Miss Irene Nelson, 524 East 236 Street, New York City; and Miss Anne I. Stryker, 11 East 32nd Street, N. Y. C., were unanimously elected Associates of the Club.

The Secretary then reported the death of Mr. D. H. Grant, an Associate of the Club.

Dr. F. E. Denny read the amendments which had been proposed relative to the Office of Secretary and the Secretary was instructed to send out a special notice to all members that these amendments would be voted on at the next meeting.

The President then read a letter from the Chairman of the Field Committee, Mr. R. H. Torrey, calling attention to lack of interest and discussion of taxonomic and ecological problems in our Tuesday evening meetings. After considerable discussion, the matter was referred to the Council for consideration.

The Secretary called attention to the fact that the 3rd Wednesday of December occurred a week before the Christmas holidays. A motion was made and carried that an exception to By-Law No. 3 be taken and a meeting held on December 16.

The Scientific Program consisted of talks by Dr. F. E. Denny of the Boyce Thompson Institute for Plant Research on "Production of Ethylene by Plants" and by Dr. Alan L. Martin of Columbia University on "The Toxicity of Selenium to Plants and Animals." Both talks created animated discussion.

J. S. KARLING
Secretary

MEETING OF DECEMBER 1, 1936

The meeting was called to order by 2nd Vice-President H. A. Gleason at 8:15 at the Museum of Natural History with 47 members and guests present.

Dr. David A. Krebs, Pennsylvania State Forest School, Mt. Alto, Pa., and Mr. Standly Smith, 204 College Avenue, Ithaca, N.Y., were unanimously elected to membership. The resignations of Leonard Irving, Mrs. Charlotte Stimson, Dr. Anne M. Wellvitz, and Mrs. Sophie Wolfe, were accepted with regret.

The Scientific program consisted of an address by Dr. H. A. Graves of the Brooklyn Botanical Garden on "Breeding Chestnut Trees." The speaker presented the data which he had so far secured in breeding hybrid chestnuts for resistance to *Endothia parasitica*, the chestnut blight fungus. The address was illustrated with colored slides and stimulated vigorous discussion.

J. S. KARLING
Secretary

Marshall Avery Howe

Dr. Marshall Avery Howe, President of the Torrey Botanical Club, died at his home in Pleasantville on December 24th of a paralytic stroke. Dr. Howe had been connected with the Torrey Club for 39 years. In 1901 when the club decided on the publication of a magazine on the local flora and the activities of the club Dr. Howe was chosen editor of *TORREYA*, continuing with this work until 1908, when he became editor of the *Bulletin of the Club*. After he relinquished this position he remained on the editorial board of the club until his death. In 1922 and 1923 he served as secretary of the club and in 1936 became president.

He was born at Newfane, Vermont, in 1867. He graduated from the University of Vermont in 1890 and received the degree of Ph.D. from Columbia University in 1898. From 1891 to 1896 he was instructor in cryptogamic botany at the University of California, and from 1898 to 1901 he was curator of the herbarium and instructor in botany at Columbia. In 1901 he became a member of the scientific staff of the New York Botanical Garden, becoming assistant director in 1923 and director in October 1935.

Dr. Howe was an authority on the hepatics and on marine algae. He was particularly interested in growing dahlias, irises and peonies. The dahlia border at the Garden, which attracts more visitors than any other display there, was first developed through the efforts of Dr. Howe in 1918 and has been under his care since.

NEWS NOTES

Dr. Frederick V. Coville, botanist of the United States Department of Agriculture, died at his home in Washington on January 9th in his seventieth year. Dr. Coville graduated from Cornell University in 1887. For two years he remained at Cornell as instructor in botany, then became assistant botanist in the United States Department of Agriculture. In 1890 he was appointed botanist of the Death Valley Expedition of the U. S. Biological Survey and reached Death Valley about the first of January 1891, spending nearly eight months in field work in the valley and the neighboring mountains. His report, published by the Smithsonian Institution, was a notable one, describing many new species of plants as well as listing all the known forms the party found. Dr. Coville is probably best known for his work in "Taming the Wild Blueberry." The cultivation of blueberries and the development of improved large varieties are direct results of his work. Dr. Coville was active in botanical work both in the Department of Agriculture and in the Botanical Society of America. He was also interested in geography and was a life trustee of the National Geographical Society.

The U. S. Department of Agriculture has published a circular listing 193 plants widely used by wild life. Each of the plants listed is an important source of food for at least ten kinds of wild birds or mammals. Most of the plants are also recommended for soil-erosion control. The circular, prepared by W. L. McAtee, is No. 412 and may be obtained from the Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C. for five cents.

The New York Academy of Sciences awarded the A. Cressy Morrison prize for 1936 to Dr. Albert F. Blakeslee, A. Dorothy Bergner and Amos G. Avery, of Cold Spring Harbor, for their work on "The Geographic Distribution of Chromosomal Prime Types of the Jimson Weed."

Norman Taylor, editor of the Garden Dictionary, has just returned from England. He will continue as editorial adviser for Houghton Mifflin Company for garden and natural science books.

The Botanical Society of America at the business meeting at Atlantic City, held in connection with the meetings of the